

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FBIE-00 SY-05 CAB-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02

FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /074 W

----- 114857

R 031830Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1872

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BRIDGETOWN 2375

ACARACAS FOR LEGAL ATTACHE

PASS TO WILLIAM HENDRICKS, NTSB, CENTRAL INVESTIGATION
DIVISION, AVIATION ACCIDENT BRANCH (AI-11)

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, BB, CU

SUBJECT: JUDICIAL INQUIRY-HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO STATEMENT OF
OCTOBER 10, 1976

REF BRIDGETOWN 2335

FULL TEXT OF LOZANO STATEMENT OF OCTOBER 10 FOLLOWS:

"I, HERNAN RICARDO LOZANO, STATE THAT ON OCTOBER 6,
1976, AFTER HAVING DISEMBARKED FROM THE CUBANA AIRLINES
FLIGHT IN BARBADOS MY FRIEND, FREDDY LUGO, AND I TOOK
A TAXI INTO TOWN. WE WENT TO GET QUOTATIONS ON PHOTOGRAPHIC
EQUIPMENT IN TOWN IN A SHOP WHICH IS SITUATED
NEAR TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. THIS WAS OUR FIRST STOP.

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THEN WE WENT TO THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL. WE HAD ENTERED

ONLY ONE SHOP IN TOWN BUT WE HAD LOOKED AT THE SHOWCASES OF OTHERS. IN THE SHOP WHICH WE ENTERED I SPOKE TO A YOUNG NEGRO MAN WHO I BELIEVE WAS AN ATTENDANT IN THE SHOP. WE SPOKE ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT OF THE TYPE NIKON MODEL F2. WE HAD SEEN THIS TYPE OF CAMERA IN THE SHOWCASE OF THE SHOP AND THEN DECIDED TO SEEK INFORMATION FROM THE ATTENDANT ABOUT THE PRICE ETC. I DO NOT REMEMBER WHAT TIME IT WAS THEN BUT I KNOW THAT IT WAS IN THE EVENING. I DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH TIME I SPENT IN TOWN.

"I ARRIVED AT THE AIRPORT IN BARBADOS AT SOME TIME BETWEEN 1:00 AND 1:30 PM. I ARRIVED AT THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL BETWEEN 5:30 AND 6:00 PM. I ARRIVED AT THE HOTEL BY TAXI. THIS WAS MY THIRD VISIT TO BARBADOS, I THINK. I ASKED THE TAXI DRIVER ABOUT THE HOLIDAY INN BUT HE SAID THAT IT WAS VERY EXPENSIVE SO I WENT TO THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL INSTEAD. I WAS ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY MR. FREDDY LUGO. THE TAXI DROVE INTO THE COMPOUND OF THE HOLIDAY INN AND STOPPED. I DID NOT GET OUT OF THE TAXI AND I DO NOT REMEMBER WHETHER MY FRIEND LUGO GOT OUT. I DO NOT KNOW WHY LUGO ENTERED THE HOLIDAY INN.

"I WAS LOOKING FOR A TELEPHONE SO I COULD CALL CARACAS. I CALLED CARACAS FROM THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL. I WANTED TO CALL MY MOTHER TO TELL HER THAT I WAS FINE. MY MOTHER'S NAME IS ROSA DE RICARDO AND HER TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 661758. I SPOKE TO MY MOTHER FROM THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL.

"I WAS BORN IN CARACAS. MY MOTHER WAS BORN IN CARACAS. I HAVE ALWAYS LIVED IN CARACAS- FOR ALL OF MY 21 YEARS. OVER THE TELEPHONE I GAVE MY MOTHER THE NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL IN CASE SHE NEEDED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME. I ALWAYS CALL MY MOTHER WHEN I AM ABROAD. I KNOW A MAN IN CARACAS WHOSE NAME IS ALFREDO GUTIERREZ. I DID NOT SEE MR. GUTIERREZ IN BARBADOS ON OCTOBER 6, 1976.

"NOW I REMEMBER THAT I DID ENTER THE HOLIDAY INN BUT SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRYING TO CALL MY MOTHER BUT NO ONE ANSWERED THE TELEPHONE SO I PLACED THE CALL FROM THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL. I BELIEVE THAT LUGO ENTERED THE HOLIDAY INN BEFORE I DID BUT AS THIS DETAIL UNCLASSIFIED

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IS OF NO IMPORTANCE TO ME I DO NOT REMEMBER IT WELL. I DID NOT MAKE ANY RESERVATION IN THE HOLIDAY INN BUT I AM NOT SURE WHETHER LUGO DID SO.

"I DID NOT MAKE ANY TELEPHONE CALL TO MS. VEGA FROM THE HOLIDAY INN. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER LUGO MADE ANY. I KNOW THREE FAMILIES IN VENEZUELA BY THE NAME OF VEGA

I KNOW MR LUIS POSADA. HE IS MY BOSS. I DO NOT KNOW

HIM BY ANY OTHER NAME. MR. POSADA IS THE DIRECTOR AND OWNER OF AN INVESTIGATIONS AGENCY. I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH IM FOR TWO YEARS. I HAVE KNOWN HIM FOR FOUR OR FIVE YEARS. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT JOB HE HAD BEFORE THIS AGENCY BUT I DO KNOW THAT HE USED TO WORK WITH THE VENEZEULAN GOVERNMENT. I MADE A TELEPHONE CALL TO MR. POSADA FROM BARBADOS. I MADE THIS CALL FROM THE HOLIDAY INN AT THE SAME TIME WHEN I ATTEMPTED TO CALL MY MOTHER. I DID NOT SPEAK TO MR. POSADA ON THAT OCCASION BECAUSE HE WAS NOT IN OFFICE.

"I DID NOT MAKE ANY OTHER CALLS BUT I DID RING SEVERAL NUMBERS IN AN EFFORT TO LOCATE MY MOTHER AND MR. POSADA. I WANTED TO SPEAK TOMR. POSADA TO TELL HIM THAT I WAS IN BARBADOS AS I HAD NOT TOLD HIM THAT I WAS GOING THERE. SENIOR SUPERINTENDANT DURANT TOLD ME THAT I HAD SPOKEN WITH MR. POSADA FOR THREE MINUTES BUT I EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT I HAD NOT SPOKEN WITH HIM BUT WITH HIS SECRETARY. IS SECRETARY'S NAME IS CELSA TOLEDO. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IN CARACAS OF MR. POSADA'S OFFICE WHERE I SPOKE TO MS. TOLEDO IS 742057. I PLACED THIS CALL FROM THE HOLIDAY INN BUT I DO NOT REMEMBER AT WHAT TIME. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT MR POSADA WAS EXPECTED AT ABOUT 5:00 PM.

" I DO NOT KNOW THE TELEPHONE NUMBER 713916 FROM MEMORY. MR POSADA'S OFFICE HAS THREE TELEPHONE NUMBERS BUT I KNOW ONLY ONE NUMBER FROM MEMORY. IN MY EFFORTS TO CONTACT MY MOTHER AND MR. POSADA I ASKED THE OPERATOR OF THE HOLIDAY INN TO ASK FOR THE OWNERS OF THE HOUSES WHERE I CALLED. I NEITHER KNOW NOR TRIED TO CONTACT ANY PERSON BY THE NAME OF ORLANDO BOSCH. I DO KNOW A MR ORLAND GARCIA BUT I DID NOT TRY TO CONTACT HIM FROM BARBADOS. I AM ALMOST SURE THAT MR. LUGO DID NOT TRY TO MAKE ANY TELEPHONE CALL FROM BARBADOS TO
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R 031830Z DEC 76

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 BRIDGETOWN 2375

OVERSEAS.

"I TRAVELLED TO BARBADOS TO GET QUOTATIONS ON PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT WHICH IS MUCH CHEAPER THERE THAN IN CARACAS. ON THAT DATE, OCTOBER 6, WE ONLY WANTED TO GET QUOTATIONS ON THE EQUIPMENT AND NOT TO PURCHASE ANY ON THAT DAY BECAUSE WE WANTED TO COMPARE THE PRICES THERE WITH THOSE IN TRINIDAD.

"ON MY ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT IN BARBADOS I HAD US\$400 MORE OR LESS. I KNOW ONLY A FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH. MR. LUGO TRAVELLED WITH ME MERELY BECAUSE WE ARE FRIENDS AND WE DECIDED TO BUY PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT TO SELL IN CARACAS. SENIOR SUPERINTENDANT DURANT TOLD ME THAT I SAID THAT I ONLY WENT TO BARBADOS TO GET QUOTATIONS AND NOT TO PURCHASE ANY EQUIPMENT BUT I TOLD HIM THAT I WANTED QUOTATIONS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES TO COMPARE THEM AND THEN PURCHASE THE EQUIPMENT. MR. LUGO WENT WITH ME BECAUSE HE IS MY FRIEND AND HE WANTED TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT ALSO. THE QUOTATION OF THE SHOP IN WHICH I ENTERED WAS: NIKON CAMERA MODEL F2 PRICE ABOUT US\$340; NIKON LENSES 500 MILLIMETRES MODEL F8 PRICE US \$330
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EXACTLY. I HAVE THREE CAMERAS OF THIS TYPE WHICH ARE SOLD FOR TRIPPLE THE PRICE IN CARACAS. MR. LUGO IS ALSO INTERESTED IN THE SAME TYPE OF EQUIPMENT BUT I DO NOT THINK THAT HE KNOWS THE EXACT PRICE OF THE EQUIPMENT. HE SEEMS TO HAVE JUST A GENERAL IDEA OF THE PRICE.
"IT WAS LAST WEEK WHEN WE DECIDED TO TRAVEL TO BARBADOS. MR. LUGO TRAVELLED WITH ME THROUGHOUT. I TRAVELLED WITH A BLACK SUITCASE CONTAINING PERSONAL CLOTHING. THIS WAS PUT IN THE HOLD OF THE AIRCRAFT.

I DID NOT CARRY IT IN MY HAND. LUGO HAD A LARGE BLACK TRAVELLING-BAG. WE ARRIVED IN TRINIDAD FROM CARACAS AT SOME TIME BETWEEN 1:00 AND 1:30 AM ON PANAM. WHEN WE WENT TO THE CUBANA COUNTER AT PIARCO I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER WE WERE OFFERED A FLIGHT ON BWIA BECAUSE I DO NOT UNDERSTAND ENGLISH. WE SAT AROUND THE MIDDLE OF THE CUBANA AIRCRAFT. I BELIEVE THAT I WENT TO THE BATHROOM DURING THE FLIGHT ON CUBANA BUT I DO NOT THINK THAT LUGO GOT UP FROM SEAT AT ALL DURING THE FLIGHT.

"MY LUGGAGE IS IN THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL IN BARBADOS NOW. WE LEFT OUR LUGGAGE IN THE HOTEL FOR ONE NIGHT WHILE WE WENT TO TRINIDAD BECAUSE WE INTENDED TO RETURN TO BARBADOS ON THE FOLLOWING DAY. WE WERE GOING TO RETURN TO BARBADOS EITHER TO COLLECT OUR LUGGAGE OR TO BUY THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT. WHEN WE HAD PASSED THROUGH TRINIDAD IN TRANSIT FROM CARACAS WE COULD NOT OBTAIN QUOTATIONS ON PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT BECAUSE IT WAS NIGHT TIME AND ALL THE SHOPS WERE CLOSED.

"WHEN I SAID TO MR. BURROUGHS THAT I HAD LOST MY LUGGAGE IN BARBADOS I DID NOT MEAN THAT IT WAS ON THIS TRIP BUT ON A PREVIOUS ONE. THE PROBLEM IS THAT WHEN I SPOKE TO MR BURROUGHS NO ONE IN THE ROOM UNDERSTOOD SPANISH.

" I DID NOT ENTER ANY OF THE ROOMS IN THE HOLIDAY INN AND I DO NOT THINK THAT LUGO DID SO EITHER. THE WATCH WHICH SENIOR SUPERINTENDANT DURANT SHOWED ME IS NOT MINE AND I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.

" I KNOW THAT THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE PALESTINE ONE IN EXISTENCE. I DO NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE GROUP 'EL CONDOR'. THE FIRST TIME I HEARD ABOUT THAT GROUP WAS WHEN THE TRINIDADIAN POLICE ASKED ME WHETHER I WAS A MEMBER OF THE

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GROUP. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE GROUP "EL CURU". THE TRINIDADIAN POLICE ALSO ASKED ME WHETHER I WAS A MEMBER OF THIS GROUP. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT EXPLOSIVES. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE EXPLOSIVE C-4.

" I MADE A TELEPHONE CALL TO MY MOTHER AND TO GUSTAVO RODRIQUEZ IN CARACAS FROM THE VILLAGE BEACH HOTEL. MY CONVERSATION WITH GUSTAVO WAS JUST A NORMAL CONVERSATION TELLING HIM THAT I WAS IN BARBADOS, ETC. WE ARRIVED IN TRINIDAD FROM BARBADOS IN THE NIGHT. WE WANTED TO GET QUOTATIONS ON PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT THE FOLLOWING MORNING AND THEN RETURN TO BARBADOS.

"THE QUOTATION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT IN BARBADOS TOTALLED ABOUT BS. 4,000-BS. 5,000. THIS SHOULD WORK OUT TO ABOUT US\$700 I GUESS. I LIVED IN COLOMBIA FOR ONE MONTH. I DO NOT KNOW ANY MAN CALLED ERIC SEALY. THE NOTE BOOK WHICH MR. RAMDWAR SHOWED ME

IS MINE. I DO NOT KNOW ANY GROUP CALLED 'ACCION A CUBA'.
I HAVE NEVER VISITED CUBA.

"THE HANDWRITING ON PAGES 4, 5 AND 6 OF THE DIARY
DATED OCTOBER 1975 IS MINE. THESE ARE VERSES WHICH ARE
MY PERSONAL INSPIRATIONS. I WRITE THESE VERSES OCCASIONALLY
DURING MY LEISURE MOMENTS."
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